

## Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 EUR-25 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 OPIC-12 XMB-07 DRC-01 /085 W  
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R 011150Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO USDOC WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8727

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BEIRUT 7502

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND EGEN LE

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT - SOUTH LITANI

1. REPRESENTATIVE OF INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING CO. (IEC) CALLED ON EMBASSY JUNE 21 TO EXPRESS DISAPPOINTMENT ABOUT LOSING PARTICIPATION IN SOUTH LITANI IRRIGATION PROJECT TO FRENCH FIRM AFTER BEING GIVEN ORAL ASSURANCES THAT THEY WOULD GET THE JOB.
2. CHECK MADE BY EMBASSY CONFIRMS FACT THAT FRENCH FIRM (GERSAR) HAD IN FACT BEEN AWARDED CONTRACT ON PREVIOUS DAY.
3. FROM PREVIOUS CONVERSATION WITH IEC REPRESENTATIVE (PIKE), IT WAS EVIDENT THAT PRESIDENT OF LITANI RIVER AUTHORITY, KAMAL KHOURY, WAS VERY ENCOURAGING AND HAD LED IEC TO BELIEVE IT HAD INSIDE TRACK.
4. EMBOFF APPROACHED KHOURY PERSONALLY ABOUT THIS MATTER IN ORDER TO EXPRESS OUR GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT. KHOURY'S REACTION WAS THAT HE HAD INDEED HOPED TO SEE IEC GET CONTRACT AND HAD GONE OUT OF HIS WAY TO FACILITATE MATTERS. HE HAD THE IMPRESSION, HOWEVER, HE SAID IN CONFIDENCE, THAT IEC WAS EITHER NOT INTERESTED IN THE JOB OR NOT UP TO IT.

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5. KHOURY IS WELL AWARE OF IEC'S REPUTATION AND HIS

REPLY CAME AS A SURPRISE. HIS STATEMENT, THEREFORE, MIGHT WELL HAVE BEEN MERELY A PRETEXT RATHER THAN AN EXPLANATION. FRENCH FLEXIBILITY WITH RESPECT TO "FACILITATING" THE AWARD OF CONTRACTS IS WELL KNOWN AND HAS BEEN REFERRED TO PREVIOUSLY BY THE EMBASSY (SEE BEIRUT 4788).

6. LITANI RIVER AUTHORITY REMAINS SOURCE OF FURTHER IMPORTANT CONTRACTS. FOR THIS REASON OUR APPROACH TO KHOURY WAS SOMEWHAT CIRCUMSPECT.  
GODLEY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** IRRIGATION, CONTRACTS, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, LITANI RIVER  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 JUL 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** shawdg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974BEIRUT07502  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740173-1050  
**From:** BEIRUT  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 72  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** shawdg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 AUG 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 AUG 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <19 FEB 2003 by shawdg>  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MAJOR PROJECT - SOUTH LITANI  
**TAGS:** EIND, EGEN, LE, US, INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING CO  
**To:** COM  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005